

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 24-46 are pending in this application. Claims 24, 31, and 39 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 24, 31, and 39.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claims 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. Independent claim 24 has been amended in this reply to clarify the present invention recited in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Thus, independent claim 24 and dependent claims 25 and 26 are no longer indefinite. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 24-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by iPlanet Directory Server Administrator's Guide version 5.0, April 2001, Chapter 2 pp. 39-69 and Chapter 5 pp. 153-182 ("iPlanet").

iPlanet is not valid prior art to this application. As evidenced by the attached declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, the present invention was conceived prior to the

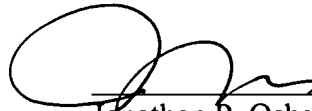
effective § 102 (a) date of iPlanet, and subsequently constructively reduced to practice with due diligence exercised by the inventors. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 13220.016001; P5829).

Respectfully submitted,

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